

ADVANCES IN CANNED PINEAPPLE PRICES PROVOKES N. Y. JOBBERS

Dealers Who Expected to Receive Concessions Threaten Legal Investigations

That the output of Hawaiian pineapple canneries is the chief factor for prices in the New York market, that jobbers are objecting strenuously to the advances that have been made in prices and even threatening an investigation under the Sherman act for alleged "price fixing" is the burden of a statement in an article on the pineapple market published in the New York Journal of Commerce of May 29. The article shows the position in which the canners appear to have the jobbers and is of much consequent interest in Hawaii. As to the prices asked, these are fixed on the mainland and recently, when the matter of new quotations was the subject of an article in the Star-Bulletin, representatives of the local canneries stated that they were then waiting definite advice from the mainland on the prices which were being determined.

In its article the Journal of Commerce says: Hawaiian pineapple has assumed an unusually interesting position in the eastern market of late and report had it Friday and Saturday that it might become a subject of investigation by the federal department of justice, under the Sherman and other conspiracy acts. So far as could be ascertained, however, no one knew anything definite in the latter connection, though it was admitted in Hudson street that some of the larger jobbers were in a frame of mind which would make such action not surprising.

It appears that the Hawaiian pineapple packers, of whom there are only eight or ten and of whom three or four pack the bulk of the crop, have taken drastic positions this year in the matter of "shading" list prices and the opening prices of all the companies were practically identical. As a matter of fact, this was not perhaps surprising, but the firmness with which all packers have refused to listen to the demands of jobbers for concessions from the list has been something unique.

Depending on the experience of past years, many of the larger jobbers have thus far refused to place their orders, relying on the probability that such an attitude would force the packers into a concessionary mood, but it does not appear to have worked, and report has it that late buyers are getting worried as to their ability to book orders for actual needs, while the packers are stiffer than when the first prices were made two weeks ago. Already advances of from 5 to 7 1/2 cents a dozen are reported and other advances are threatened this week.

Small jobbers have generally accepted the goods at the opening prices, and are disposed to smile at the futile efforts of the late comers to secure confirmations at their offers. Large sums of money are said to have been expended in transcontinental wiring and telephoning, but thus far without having developed any weakness among the packers. This is so unusual that some of the dissatisfied jobbers are said to have reported their suspicions to the department of justice, claiming that a "conspiracy" is at work to maintain prices illegally. Brokers, however, laugh at any such suggestions and assert that the uniformity of price is only the natural operation of a lot of producers who have learned the lesson of cutting prices to the bone and losing money, and are now determined individually to stand firm, under the protecting umbrella of the larger group of producers, without any necessity for collusion.

It is pointed out by brokers that a number of causes have contributed to the firmness in the pineapple market; ample to preclude recourse to collusion. First of all, pineapple is in a strong statistical position, with little if any spot stock to be disposed of, thanks to the intensive work of advertising during the past three seasons, and the close cleanup of last year. Again, the big boom in sugar has encouraged many planters to set out

sugar cane instead of pines, and many of the remaining acres will not bear as heavily this year as last, because of the age of the plants. It is estimated that this year's output will not exceed 2,100,000 cases, as against 2,630,000 cases last year.

A comparison of the opening prices, this year and last, will show the feeling of the packers as to values, but the most striking fact is that few, if any, packers have receded from these figures, whereas last year prices were "all shot to pieces" by the competition:

Grades.	1916.	1915.
2 1/2 extra sliced	Doz. \$1.70	Doz. \$1.50
2 extra sliced	1.15	1.10
2 1/2 standard	1.45	1.30
2 standard	1.05	1.02 1/2

And instead of shading these prices packers are refusing to confirm even at these figures now, demanding five cents more advance, according to grades. Not only is the acreage held responsible for the firmness but the additional cost of materials and especially the higher freights are said to contribute. Packers' representatives are reported to have had all suggestions of accepting orders at lower prices turned down from the coast.

With the larger buyers still holding fast, refusing to pay the packers' prices, and packers claiming an intention to make further advances, the tug of war promises to be interesting for the next few days.

HAWAII'S FORAGE PROBLEM IS PUT UP TO HITCHCOCK

(Continued from page one)

his specimens they will be placed on exhibition. There has never been a government study of the island grasses and the last private study was made about 20 years ago.

Of more general interest than his scientific study will be Prof. Hitchcock's attempt to find a grass that can be successfully grown and dried for forage here. The army imports about 9000 tons a year. Transportation of such a bulky article is expensive. The army has about 500 acres of land at Schofield which it will be possible to use if a satisfactory grass is found.

Experiments have been conducted at Schofield for more than a year now and there is a provision in a bill now before Congress for an appropriation for a branch of the experiment station there. It is planned to plant about 100 grasses there on a ten acre tract, find out what ten grow best and then study conditions under which they will grow best, finally cutting the ten down to three or four and then to the one best grass.

Prof. Hitchcock will probably have to leave before the experiments are concluded, but it is expected that he will be of much assistance in recommending the grasses to be planted. "It is peculiar, but the native grasses are not the ones that thrive best," he remarked yesterday. "Weeds are seldom native to the countries in which they are found. In their own countries they are harmless, innocent plants." He believes he may be able to recommend a foreign grass that will grow well here after a study of the situation. "If forage can be produced cheaply here, it appears to me that it would be a distinct boon for the dairy and cattle industries," he said. "I became interested in that phase at the first meal I ate here. I could not get cream for my coffee, and on inquiry found that the dairy industry is at a low ebb here. Then and there I resolved to find a good cow-feed that will grow here cheaply."

President Wilson received cadets of the Massachusetts Nautical school of Boston who went to Washington on the gunboat Ranger on their annual cruise.

Italy's national emblem is the lily. Great Britain's first submarine cost \$175,000.

GERMANY ADDS TO CLAIMS OF VICTORY ON SEA

(Continued from page one)

proach of English battleship squadron of 12 ships coming from the southern North Sea, the English main body neither attempted to get again into touch with our forces in order to continue battle nor to join sailing squadron in order to annihilate the German fleet.

"Further English report is that the English fleet tried in vain to overtake the fleeing German fleet in order to defeat her before reaching her home point, D'Agui. This, however, is contradicted by what is styled the official English declaration that Admiral Jellicoe already on June 1 had arrived with his large fleet at the point D'Agui in Scapaflow, Orkney islands, which is more than 300 miles distant from the place of engagement. Numerous German torpedo boats were sent after the battle northward for a night attack beyond the place of the day battle in order to search carefully for the English main body, but found nothing."

"The German torpedo boats then had the opportunity to rescue a large number of English from the water, having been left from several sunken ships and other craft."

"The English contradict the statement that the whole English battle fleet took part in the battle of May 31, but proof of this is furnished by the fact that the report of the British admiral himself gives the Marlborough as disabled. Furthermore, a German submarine on June 1 sighted other ships of the Iron Duke type heavily damaged, steering towards the English coast. Both these ships belonged to the British main fleet."

"In order to belittle German success, the English press further explains the loss of numerous English ships in large part as due to German mines, submarines and airships. In answer to this it is expressly stated that neither mines, which, by the way, might have become as dangerous for the German as for the hostile fleet, nor airships were used by the German high sea fleet in action. German victory was won by able leadership and by the effect of the German artillery as well as torpedoes."

"Up to now no reply has been made to the numerous so-called official English reports about German losses. The last report, which regularly is repeated, is that the German fleet lost no less than two ships of the Kaiser type, and the Westfalen and two battle-cruisers and four small cruisers as well as a large number of destroyers. "The English, besides, call the Pomern, whose loss was reported by the Germans, not a battleship of 33,000 tons, dating from 1905, but a modern dreadnought of the same name. In answer it is therefore stated that the total loss of the German high sea forces during the engagements of May 31 and June 1 and the following time was one battle-cruiser and one older battleship, and four small cruisers and five torpedo-boats."

"Of the ships which have already been mentioned in official statements as reported sunk, the Pomern was launched in 1905, the Wiesbaden, Elbing and Fraunhof and five torpedo boats were lost."

"Up to now the loss of the Lutzow and Rostock have not been reported, for military reasons. These reasons, however, have caused false interpretations of these measures. It is therefore stated that both ships were lost on the way to a repairing port, after attempts to keep them, heavily damaged, afloat had failed. The crews of both ships including all heavily wounded, were saved."

"Herewith the list of German losses is complete, but there are conclusive indications that the real English losses are materially higher than what the Germans on their part could state from observation and what have been made public."

"It was stated by English prisoners taken at the time of the battle that besides the Warspite the British lost also the Princess Royal and the Birmingham. According to reliable information the dreadnought Marlborough was likewise sunk before it reached port."

"The high sea battle of Skagerak stands out as a German victory, as already proved by the fact that even based on the losses officially admitted by the English, the total German loss of 60,720 tons of warships is opposed to the British loss of 117,750 tons."

POLICE NOTES

Ah Kee was fined \$25 for having a chafa ticket.

The chafa case of Ah Sam has been postponed to Tuesday.

Jim Collins, accused of driving an auto when under the influence of liquor will be heard Friday.

J. Kaopua, James Kamakani and Tony Santos each paid \$15 and costs in police court for gambling.

Ah Hoong paid \$5 to the police when he was found guilty of having an opium smoking outfit in his possession.

Mr. and Mrs. Uyeno, accused of selling liquor without a license, will be heard next Tuesday in Judge Monsarrat's court.

A. Gonsalves was charged in police court this morning with being found on the property of another. He will be tried Wednesday.

Sentence was suspended this morning by Judge Monsarrat upon J. J. O'Byrne, Joe Fragas and E. P. Cropley, all accused of being drunk.

Fair exchange is no robbery they say, but Henry W. Aki of the Hawaiian Electric Company doesn't believe the bicycle left in place of his Saturday afternoon was an even trade. So he told the police yesterday.

BETTER TONE IN STOCK MARKET IS EVIDENCED

Listing of Olaa in San Francisco is Credited for Improvement Soon

Wider interest, more inquiries and generally a better tone to the stock market was reported by brokers generally this morning. This was attributed to the beneficial effect which it is thought the listing of Olaa in San Francisco will have, not upon that stock alone, but upon all of the stocks on the list. It broadens the market for Olaa, in fact, makes two markets instead of one. One prominent broker said that he looked to see Olaa enjoy a popularity such as Oahu has always had. The company has issued a large number of shares and these are held by many individuals and diversified interests. He believed the listing would put the stock on a more staple basis.

Mineral Products was being offered at \$1.15 this morning. No mail advices from the coast had arrived, but it was said that there might be some forthcoming tomorrow.

There were sales of Honolulu Oil at \$3.25. Engels Cooper was offered at \$2.75 and Mountain King at 95 cents.

Duisenberg & Co. have cable advices that a good strike has been made on Black Range, which property adjoins Tipperary in the Oatman district. Total sales for the day were 1565 shares of listed securities and \$17,000 in bonds. Olaa advanced to \$24.12 1/2 and was responsible for nearly half of the transactions reported.

JAPANESE TOWN WIPED OUT.

(Special Cable to Nippu Jiji.) TOKIO, Japan, June 15.—The town of Kinomoto was entirely destroyed by fire yesterday afternoon; every one of the 200 buildings being burned to the ground. As yet no loss of lives has been reported.

SATO APPOINTED TO POST AT WASHINGTON: BARON HAYASHI ILL

(Special Cable to Nippu Jiji.) TOKIO, Japan, June 15.—Baron G. Hayashi, ambassador to Rome, has returned to Tokio from Italy and will take a long vacation. He has been ill for some time and will not take the post as ambassador at Washington.

Mr. Sato, former ambassador to Vienna, has been appointed ambassador to Washington, succeeding Viscount Chinda, who goes to the Court of St. James.

Senator Newlands appeared before the senate committee on foreign relations in support of his resolutions regarding the restoration of peace in Europe.

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ESTEY	Mahogany	350.00
LESTER	Walnut	275.00
NEW ENGLAND	Mahogany	250.00
SINGER	Oak	300.00
SEILER		275.00
LAGUNDA	Oak	300.00
HENSCHER	Oak	300.00
KROEGER	Mahogany	400.00
KINGSBURY	Mahogany	350.00
VOSE	Mahogany	500.00

Player Pianos

Make	Finish	Sale Price
PRIMATONE	Oak	\$500.00
PRIMATONE	Oak	500.00
STODDARD	Mahogany	600.00

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